



THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE

514 COUNTY CITY BUILDING

ZONE 4

April 9, 1962

A Message to our Successors on the
City Council in the Year 2,012:

We cannot see into the future to visualize the Seattle of the future, but we can hope and imagine. In the year 2,012 Seattle will either be a mighty metropolis of more than 1,000,000 residents--or it will have become a charred, deserted relic of a fearful age of nuclear warfare. This year of 1962 is a troubled one in the world as you will have read in history.

But we prefer to look toward the Seattle of 2,012 as a vibrant, lively center of industry (of types we cannot today imagine) and a center of the arts and culture. We hope that the dreams of Seattle citizens of today will have been realized, and that it will be an even more beautiful city than it is today.

Late this month the Seattle World's Fair of 1962 will open. You of 2,012 are, we trust, still enjoying the buildings which we helped to become reality through the Fair. On about June 1 of this year we will be moving into the Seattle Municipal Building at Fourth Avenue and James Street. We believe that the Council of 2,012 still will be occupying that building, for it was built to last until your day. Or has Seattle outgrown it?

On the walls of our present offices in the County-City Building are pictures of City Councils of past years. Their garb appears old-fashioned to us, just as our appearance in the year 1962 will be odd to you in 2,012.

What are we concerned with today, in addition to the day-to-day job of running an expanding city? At the moment there is concern about apartment rental problems brought on by the Fair. The central freeway is under construction, and the second Lake Washington floating bridge is being built. The city is humming with new construction of many types. We are pushing ahead on an urban-renewal program to rehabilitate older sections of the city. Traffic grows daily in complexity (perhaps you are worrying about aerial traffic congestion!)

We are operating this growing city on a balanced municipal budget--and saving money for capital improvements, besides. We hope that you are doing the same. We hope that Seattle of your day has a larger degree of home rule than we do. We foresee that municipal government of your day will be of a different type than in 1962, but we cannot forecast.

To our "colleagues" of 2,012--we extend our greetings over the long years, and we know that you will be as proud to be part of the government of a great city as we are.

Sincerely yours,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE

David Levine, President

Picture attached.